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March 13, 2007

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON LAND USE

The Committee on Land Use held a meeting on March 13, 2007, with Chairman Sean O'Donovan presiding and Committee Member Alderman Maryann Heuston also present and voting. Also present were Aldermen Bruce Desmond, William White and Thomas Taylor, Michael Lambert from the Mayor's Office, Alice Martin from SPCD, City Solicitor John Gannon and several interested members of the public.

The committee discussed item 182762, (a petition by ten registered voters requesting approval of an amendment to the zoning ordinances re: Davis Sq. Common Victuallers), and asked Mr. Gannon his thoughts on the matter. Mr. Gannon told the members that the item is not properly before the Board and he advised the committee to keep the item in committee while he researches the matter and provides a legal opinion.

The committee discussed item 182003, (a proposed an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances establishing a PUD-C Zoning Overlay District and Union Square Arts Overlay District with Facilitation by city-wide amendments), and Alderman Heuston commented on the concerns of neighbors in the affected area. Alderman Heuston stated that there is a group of property owners who are concerned that their properties were not included in the PUD-C and that they feel that the zoning favors one side of Somerville Ave over the other. She further stated that the numerous meetings with the Union Sq. Neighborhood Association have yielded several worthwhile recommendations. Therefore, Alderman Heuston recommended that the zoning and Planning Board's recommendations and all documents pertaining to this matter be place on file in anticipation of receiving a new zoning proposal for the area, so that some of the ideas might be included.

Alderman Heuston's motion's **that items 182622 and 182003 be placed on file** was approved.

Chairman O'Donovan asked Mr. Gannon if public hearings would be required for the items submitted by registered voters regarding the Union Square development, (182835, 182836, 182837 and 182842). Mr. Gannon told the members that these items also were not properly before the board and he advised the committee to keep the items in committee while he researches the matter and provides a legal opinion.

The committee took action on the following 2 items:

182003: Ordinance - By Ald. Heuston and Taylor, Proposing an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances by establishing a PUD-C Zoning Overlay District and Union Square Arts Overlay District with Facilitation by city-wide

RECOMMENDATION: Should be placed on file

VOTE: Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

182622: Communication from Planning Board - re: proposed amendments establishing a PUD-C Zoning Overlay District and a Union Sq. Arts Overlay District.

RECOMMENDATION: Should be placed on file

VOTE: Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

Alderman Sean T. O'Donovan, Chairman
Committee on Land Use

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Land Use, March
13, 2007

In Board of Aldermen

Clerk